–लघु और कुटीर क्षेत्रों को कच्चा माल की आपूर्ति उनके उत्पादों का विपणन इत्यादि जैसी समर्थन सेवाएं प्रदान करना। संशोधित सम्मिलित उद्देश्यों के परिपेक्ष्य में एल०टी०सी० ने वर्ष 1991-92 के लिए अपनी क्रिया योजना की रूपरेखा तैयार की है जिसमें निम्नलिखित पर जोर डाला गया है :–

–सीधे बेचना और खरीदना

–निर्यात के नए क्षेत्रों का पता लगाना।

–निजी आपूर्ति आधार का सृजन।

–तीसरे देशों के साथ व्यापार इत्यादि।

(घ) और (ङ) चालू वित्तीय वर्ष के प्रारम्भ में एस०टी०सी० के कर्मचारियों की स्थिति निम्नानुसार है :–

दिनांक 1-4-91 के अनुसार

प्रबंधक	905
कर्मचारी	1627
कुल	2532

(च) स्टेट ट्रेडिंग कारपोरेशन द्वारा 1990-91 के दौरान कमाया गया कर पूर्व निवल लाभ 34.6 करोड़ रुपए हुआ। स्थापना प्रशासन और वर्ष 1990-91 के लिए अन्य लागत सहित 38.2 करोड़ रुपए हुआ।

Trade deficit during current year

378. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the foreign trade deficit expected during this year;

(b) whether this includes imports for defence;

(c) what is the expected overall Balance of Payment deficit; and

(d) the manner in which this deficit is expected to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) According to the provisional figures, India's trade deficit has come down from Rs. 4234 crores during April–September, 1990 to Rs. 2356 crores during April–September 1991. It is difficult to precisely estimate the trade deficit for the financial year 1991-92 at this stage.

(b) The trade figures include only the merchandise trade that pass through the customs, without any distinction being made whether they are for defence purposes or otherwise.

(c) and (d) The deficit in trade account is to be financed by net invisibles and flows in the Capital Account in order to maintain the level of foreign currency reserves. Hence the question of a deficit in overall balance of payment as such does not arise.

Government's stand on drafts agreement on special 301

379. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a draft agreement on Special 301 was handed over by the U.S. Trade representative during his visit to Washington;

(b) if so, what are the details of this draft agreement; and

(c) what is Government's decision/stand on the various clauses of the draft agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) In the normal course of bilateral consultations the U.S. authorities handed over to the Indian